

Re: Contacts with Kiev Dance ensemble in Caracas.

Date: 30 July 1965

Source: R.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3828  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

Source and B. went backstage during the intermission in Aula Magna. There source was approached by PAVLENKO who introduced himself, and asked source who he was, and what was he doing here. Source told PAVLENKO that he was a student from New York, who happened to be in Caracas at the present time. When PAVLENKO heard this he said that he has many friends in New York, and asked source if he knew Roman MAC. Source said that he did, and saw him ~~every~~ every once in a while. PAVLENKO went on to say that he and MAC were very good friends, and when PAVLENKO was in New York, they went sightseeing quite often and had a good time. PAVLENKO added that he had a gift for MAC, and would give it to source later on. Source was then approached by KOSTIUCHENKO, who asked source if they could get together with B. and PAVLENKO that evening. Source agreed, and left to watch the performance.

30 July in hotel El Conde

Source and B. met PAVLENKO and KOSTIUCHENKO in the lobby of the hotel El Conde, greetings were exchanged and the group went up to the vestibule and sat down. PAVLENKO sat next to source, while KOSTIUCHENKO sat near B. At first the conversation was about the performance that evening, with source asking about the new numbers, which he had not seen in New York. This conversation lasted only a few minutes, but then source handed PAVLENKO a copy of SUCHASNIIST # 1/65. PAVLENKO took the journal, and said that he had already seen it in Argentina, where he was given a copy by HALAYCZUK. PAVLENKO praised HALAYCZUK, saying that he was a very smart man, but that some of his viewpoints were very strong, and it was hard to change them. When questioned by source, PAVLENKO said that Halayczuk was very well read, knew what he was talking about, but was very stiff, Pavlenko did not elaborate.

Source asked about SYMONENKO'S poetry and the effect the publishing of it had in Ukraine. Pavlenko stuck to the official line that Symonenko is very popular in Ukraine, and most of the poems published by SUCHASNIIST were already published in Ukraine. Source did not agree with this, saying that he had read the Soviet edition of Symonenko's poetry, and many verses were left out, and many words were changed. Pavlenko did not argue this, but cited the lines "Let America and Russia keep quiet when I speak with you". Source smiled and nodded his head. Pavlenko mentioned that there was a certain amount of official furor over the publishing of the poetry, as was evident in the article in Radianska

Ukraina, "Everest Pidlosti". Pavlenko commented that NEHODA the author of the article was a second rate poet, who is not popular in Ukraine, and the article was a mistake. Source attacked the arguments in the article, which said that the emigration falseified Symonenko's poetry, and published only poems which were tendencially picked. Source pointed to the fact that the poems were taken from the original manuscript written by Symonenko, and there was no need to resort ~~for~~ falseification. Source asked about the fate of SVITLYCHNIY and PEREPADIA, who were mentioned in the article. Pavlenko seemed surprised with this question, but said that as far as he knows SVITLYCHNIY is working in Kiev, but he did not know about PEREPADIA. Pavlenko asked how the poems, and the diary fell into the hands of the emmigration. Source did not know.

Source asked Pavlenko about the concept of Ukraine and Russia being twoequal sister republics in the USSR, and what has happened to this concept, at the same time stating that it has been forgotten, and the policy has reversed to Russia being Ukraine's big brother. Pavlenko said that this is not so, Ukraine and Russia are equal republics, with no discrimination against Ukraine. Source did not agree showing some facts: There are no Ukrainian schools in the Russian republic, while in Ukraine there are many Russian schools. There are no Ukrainian newspapers in Russia, even though there are many Ukrainians living there. Pavlenko agreed with the facts but would not comment on them. Source brought out the fact that Ukraine still does not have diplomatic relat ons with the west. Pavlenko replied that he and KOSTIUCHENKO were talking about this earlier in the day, and both agreed that such relations would be good to have. Pavlenko changed the subject, and asked if it was possible for source to obtain "The history of Ukraine" by MYKHAIL VOSEY for him, saying that when he was in New York, NAC gave it to him, and he brought it back with him. Source did not promise him the history, but said that it was very hard to get now since it was published in a limited number. Pavlenko went on to say that he studied history and such a work is very valuable right now in Kiev. There are very few sets available, and most of those belong to private collections. Source asked if there were plans to publish Hryshevsky in Ukraine in the near future. Pavlenko doubted it. Source considerede this wrong, because after all ~~KLUCHEVSKY~~ <sup>thought</sup> is being published, and ~~taught~~ in schools, and it is ~~known~~ fact that ~~KLUCHEVSKY~~ is a great Russian chauvinist, who praises the era of the Czar and the Russian empire in his works. Pavlenko just nodded his head, but rejected the possibility of publishing Hryshevsky. Source asked if Pavlenko had read a book called VIVIDNA ISTORIYA UKRAINY, Pavlenko said he did, commenting that it is an interesting book, but gives only the outline of Ukrainian history. Pavlenko asked Source if he could get him a good book about the OUN and UPA, saying that he is very much interested in their struggle, and what they stood for. As a historian, he would like some good first hand source's about them. In Ukraine added

Pavlenko it is almost impossible to read an objective study on their (OUN, UPA) activities. The only things constantly repeated about them, is that they are bandits. Being able to talk with Ukrainian emigrants, Pavlenko said that he is better acquainted with their programs and ideas. Source continued the discussion about the OUN stating that they were not German collaborators, and that the only reason the OUN asked for help from the Germans was to have an ally in the fight against the bolsheviks. Pavlenko said that this view was not new to him, adding that HAD had explained this to him in New York. Source asked Pavlenko what kind of literature he would like to receive about the OUN and UPA. Pavlenko replied that he is interested in historical documents of that era which would show him the actual program of the OUN in western Ukraine. Source promised to obtain said books for him.

Source asked Pavlenko about the reason for the liquidation of the newspaper KIIIVSKA ZORNA. Pavlenko seemed taken aback by this question, looked at Kostiucho, and said "Where did you hear of this?" Source replied that such information is obtainable. Pavlenko gave the reason that due to unification the industrial and agricultural party organizations the newspaper was liquidated. Pavlenko had trouble answering this question, looking towards Kostiucho for help. Source did not agree with the answer given, stating that in Ukraine at the present a policy of liquidation of Ukrainian newspapers is in full force. This is shown by the fact that in L'viv the newspaper L'VOVS'KAYA PRAVDA, which is published in Russian, has a circulation twice that of VIL'NA UKRAINA, which is published in Ukrainian. This proves, to a certain extent, that Ukrainian newspapers are being discriminated against. Pavlenko did not reply to source's arguments, and just nodded his head.

Source then told Pavlenko an anecdote of the Armenian Radio. Pavlenko laughed and said, "I see that the Armenian Radio has even reached America". Pavlenko seemed truly surprised that source was aware of the Armenian Radio and its jokes. Pavlenko proceeded to tell source the following Armenian joke: "The Armenian Radio asks why Dulles was removed as head of CIA? The answer is that he could not find where Radio Armenia broadcasts from". Kostiucho laughed and told the following story: "Last year in Moscow there was a conference of the All-union Radio, representatives of the Russian, Ukrainian and so forth radions ~~where~~ were asked to speak. Their speeches were very dull and boring. Finally, the chairman asked the representative of the Armenian Radio to step forward. The audience at this broke out into laughter which lasted for twenty minutes. When the speaker from Armenia tried to speak, laughter broke out again and he walked off the podium angry". The group enjoyed the story immensely, laughed heartily and loosening the situation.

Kostiuchenko asked source if he was familiar with Oles Samchuk. Saying that he had heard that Samchuk won an award for one <sup>of</sup> his novels. Source said that he was acquainted with Samchuk and recommended that Kostiuchenko read OST by Samchuk. Kostiuchenko asked source to obtain the book for him. Source promised to do so.

Kostiuchenko attacked source by saying that the emigration is detached from reality in Ukraine. Source agreed, but told Kostiuchenko that the emigration is also very well informed of what is going on in Ukraine at the present, adding that "We know that there have been repressions for the publishing of Symonenko's poems and diary in the west". Kostiuchenko replied that there are no repressions in Ukraine at the present. Such tactics went out with Stalin. Source replied angrily "What about Hrus'ka?" And the affair with the stained-glass window in Kiev University, wasn't she expelled from the Association of Artists of Ukraine, and what were the reasons! Source asked Kostiuchenko if this is not a form of repression. Kostiuchenko smiled and said "You are very well informed, aren't you?" Avoiding a direct answer. Source went on to say that he, a member of the ruling ~~hierarchy~~ <sup>permit</sup> in Ukraine, should not ~~permit~~ such actions to occur. Then, hintingly, source added that even in the KGB there should be patriotic Ukrainians who will not betray their own people. Pavlenko smiled saying that he is not well acquainted with the KGB and its workings. Source laughed and said "Come now". B. commented that the forms of repression have changed since the days of Stalin. During the Stalinist regime people were taken and shot, now the <sup>more subtle but</sup> repressions are harsher. Writers and artists are made to conform to the strict boundaries of socialist realism, thus ruining their creativity. Neither Pavlenko nor Kostiuchenko answered these charges.

Since it was already three am. everyone's nerves were on edge and everyone was tired source proposed that all go to bed and the discussion be continued at a later date. Pavlenko agreed, at the same time asking source if he would obtain for him the literature about the OUN and UPA. Kostiuchenko asked source for a book by Samchuk and KOSTRILYANE VIDROBUDZENNYA. Source promised to obtain said books for both and handed each a copy of a reprint from SUCHASNIST about the Kiev ensemble in Paris, in which were inserted a reprint of Symonenko's poetry and diary, and a reprint about the fire in the Kiev Public Library. Source was thanked for these and everyone parted the best of friends.